

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/286,133

Examiner

Ayal I Sharon

Applicant(s)

SABADELL ET AL.

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment Filed 6/10/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14, 16 and 17, now renumbered as 1-3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 5/31/2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The closest prior art of record is:
 - Lowry et al., U.S. Patent 4,864,497. (Henceforth referred to as "**Lowry**").
2. Examiner initially indicated allowable subject matter in the Office Action mailed on 08/28/2003 (see pp.21-23). Claims 15-17 were objected to on the grounds of being dependent upon a rejected base claim, Claim 14.
3. In the Amendment dated 12/19/2003, the Applicants amended the base claim, Claim 14, to include the limitations of Claim 15. In addition, Claim 15 was cancelled.
4. Examiner indicated in the Advisory Action dated 01/12/2004 that claims 14, 16 and 17 were allowable.
5. In the most recent Applicants' Amendment, dated 6/10/2004, Claims 1-13 were cancelled. The remaining claims in the Application are the allowable claims: Claims 14, 16 and 17.
6. The reasons for allowability that were initially presented in the Office Action mailed on 08/28/2003 (see pp.21-23) are repeated immediately below. They have been modified to take into account the cancellation of Claim 15, and the incorporation of Claim 15's limitations into Claim 14.
7. Claim 14 recites the use of filter objects in association with collection objects to map properties into the hierarchy based on comparing a property value with a

collection value of a respective collection object. Lowry teaches the use of Converter Programs and Retrieval Programs map properties of attribute data objects, as taught in the following paragraphs:

Preferably, converter program 570 performs the same functions as converter program 540. The only difference between converter programs 540 and 570 shown in FIG. 5A is the manner in which information is transmitted from application program 560. Application program 560 first writes data into a file 565. **Converter program 570, after receiving a signal from update synchronizer 550, reads file 565 and creates attribute data objects in common data structure 140 of master database 510 in accordance with data in file 565.**

(Lowry: col.10, line 61 to col.11, line 2)

The data structure of the present invention also includes means for retrieving from the common data structure all of those attribute data objects which have a being-held relationship with a specified attribute data object.

Again, retrieval program 580 in the preferred embodiment shown in FIG. 5A performs this type of retrieval also. In operation, application program 530 specifies an attribute data object and asks for all those other attribute data objects which are held by the specified attribute data object. Retrieval program 580 then translates that request into an appropriate format, and searches through the slave database 520 until the specified attribute data object is located. **Once the specified attribute data object is located, retrieval program 580 obtains copies of all of the attribute data objects which are held by that specified data object. Retrieval program 580 then converts those held attribute data objects into the format applicable for application program 530 and transmits those converted attribute data objects to application program 530.**

(Lowry: col.9, line 53 to col.10, line 4)

Lowry also teaches that the attribute data objects are mapped hierarchically.

Specifically, the method of creating the data structure comprises the steps, executed by said data processor, of creating a different one of the attribute data objects for each of the node data and **organizing the attribute data objects hierarchically according to a being-held relationship by choosing from the attribute data objects for each of the attribute data objects, a holder data object such that a hierarchical being-held relationship exists between each attribute**

data object and a single holder data object. (Lowry: col.2, line 60 to col.3, line 10)

However, Lowery does not expressly teach that filter objects are used in association with collection objects to map the properties into the hierarchy based on comparing a property value with a collection value of a respective collection object.

Therefore, this limitation, in combination with the other limitations of Claims 14, is allowable.

8. Claim 16 recites the use of a modifier stack for storing modifications of the target object and linking the modifier stack with a collection object and applying a modification of the modifier stack to the target file via the linked collection object, thereby constructing the target object.

Lowry teaches that the attribute data objects are mapped hierarchically.

Specifically, the method of creating the data structure comprises the steps, executed by said data processor, of creating a different one of the attribute data objects for each of the node data and **organizing the attribute data objects hierarchically according to a being-held relationship by choosing from the attribute data objects for each of the attribute data objects, a holder data object such that a hierarchical being-held relationship exists between each attribute data object and a single holder data object.** (Lowry: col.2, line 60 to col.3, line 10)

However, Lowery does not expressly the use of a modifier stack for storing modifications of the target object and linking the modifier stack with a collection object and applying a modification of the modifier stack to the target file via the linked collection object, thereby constructing the target object.

Therefore, this limitation, in combination with the other limitations of Claims 14 and 16, is allowable.

9. Claim 17 depends from Claim 16, and therefore is allowable for the same reasons described above.

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ayal I. Sharon whose telephone number is (703) 306-0297. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, and the first Friday of a biweek, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached on (703) 305-9704. Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

Director of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the following office:

4th floor receptionist's office
Crystal Park 2
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA

The fax phone number is: (703) 872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist, whose telephone number is: (703) 305-3900.

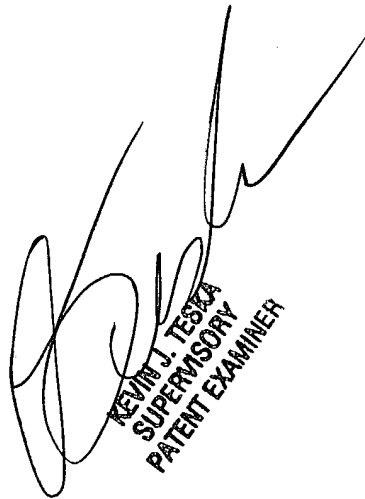
Application/Control Number: 09/286,133
Art Unit: 2123

Page 6

Ayal I. Sharon

Art Unit 2123

August 12, 2004



KEVIN J. TESKA
SUPERVISORY
PATENT EXAMINER